

Feedback on the proposed direction of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan

Resolution number WH/2017/94

MOVED by Member C Farmer, seconded by Member T Matafai:

That the Whau Local Board:

a) support the proposed approaches outlined in attachment B of the Feedback on the proposed direction of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan report. The board would like to make qualifying comments as follows:

Issue	Proposed Approach	Supports Y/N	Comment
Cats	<p>To continue management of cats in areas of high biodiversity value as part of integrated pest control but potentially for an increased number of sites.</p> <p>To provide greater certainty cats will be defined as pests in these circumstances if they are not able to be identified by microchip or other means as being owned.</p> <p>Cats will continue to be controlled on areas of public land where threatened species are being protected (regardless of whether they are owned or unowned). Example sites: the open sanctuaries and kokako/kiwi management area in the Hunua Ranges.</p>	Y	The board would supports the proposed approach and would like to support the Waitakere Ranges Local Board's comments relating to the control of cats within the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area.
Possums	Landscape scale progressive containment programme to manage possums. Rural management would be integrated with management in high value biodiversity areas. This could be achieved using a targeted rate across rural Auckland.	Partly	The board does support the proposed management of possums. However, it would hesitate at recommending the use of targeted rates across rural areas as the Whau does not itself have any rural areas within its borders.
Widespread pest plants	Site-led programme for parks with significant ecological areas to manage a suite of up to 30 pest	Y	The board strongly recommends that the two species of privet (<i>ligustrum lucidum</i> (tree

	plants per site to an extent that protects the values of the parkland. Includes use of rules in buffer areas around parkland.		privet) and Ligustrum sinense (Chinese privet) prevalent in not only the Whau but all the Auckland Region's suburban areas, should be promoted from the current Surveillance Species list onto the <i>Containment Pest Plants</i> list. Landowners and occupiers should be supported to remove privet from their property by council facilitated free collection or free drop off points. Priority should be given to removal and containment of both species from Auckland Council owned land, including the Auckland Transport roading corridors. Containment in the Whau would not only lessen the opportunity of infestation in the neighbouring Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area (thereby lessening the threat of displacement of native species), but would also remove a toxic antagonist for many who suffer with respiratory health problems.
New ban of sale	Phasing out the sale of approximately 50 new plant pests and 13 new animal pests in addition to those currently identified.	Y	The board is fully supportive of this approach and has nothing further to add.
Kauri dieback	Exclusion programme with pathway management rules to prevent the establishment of kauri dieback in high priority kauri dieback-free zones.	Y	The board understands that kauri dieback will now be included within the Regional Pest Management Plan Review, and point to the "Kauri Dieback Report 2017: An investigation into the distribution of kauri dieback, and implications for its future management, within the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park", noting that there are implications and risks here for the Auckland region as a whole, and the need for Council policies and actions to point to a coordinated and coherent response to the kauri dieback threat.

Transport corridors	Road corridor enforcement targeted to buffers around site-led programmes to maximise effectiveness.	Y	The board is fully supportive of this approach and would reiterate the need to urgently address private control in its roading corridors.
---------------------	---	---	---